

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SUFFOLK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION
MINUTES OF JANUARY 17, 2008
MEADOWEDGE, WEST SAYVILLE**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Gil Cardillo	Vice Chairman, Trustee, Town of Riverhead
Ray Corwin	Member at Large
Gregory Dawson	Trustee, Town of Islip
John Fritz	Chairman, Trustee, Town of Babylon
Scott Hilary	Trustee, Town of Southold
Alexander McKay	Trustee, Town of Huntington
Todd Stebbins	Member of the Board
Richard F. White, Jr.	Trustee, Town of East Hampton

ABSENT

Miles Borden	Trustee, Town of Smithtown
Gary Olsen	Trustee, Town of Brookhaven
Terrence Pearsall	Member of the Board

PARKS DEPARTMENT

John W. Pavacic	Commissioner
Tracey Bellone	Deputy Commissioner
William B. Sickles	Sr. Superintendent of Parks
Tom Hroncich	Director, Parks Foundation
Ann Rothenberg	Assistant to the Commissioner

GUESTS

Lauretta Fischer	Principal Environmental Analyst, Planning Department
Janet Longo	Deputy Director, Real Property Acquisitions and Management
Roger Podd	County Attorney's Office
Legislator Vioria-Fisher	Suffolk County Legislature
Thomas Ryan	Office of Legislator Vioria-Fisher
Justin Littell	Office of Legislator Lou D'Amaro
Bill Shilling	Office of Presiding Officer William J. Lindsay
Tom Casey	Vice President, Long Island Greenbelt Trail Conference
David Reisfield	Board Member, Long Island Greenbelt Trail Conference
Jay Miller	Chairman, Parks Foundation Board

Chairman Fritz called the meeting to order.

PRESENTATION BY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND REAL ESTATE

Lauretta Fischer proposed three acquisitions. Colored site maps were distributed describing the property.

Carlls River County Park Addition – Holder Property

The acquisition of .33 acres in Wyandanch, Town of Babylon. This will be acquired under the Old Suffolk County Drinking Water Protection Program.

A motion to approve this acquisition was made by Chairman Fritz and seconded by Trustee Corwin. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 8-0-0.

Acabonac Harbor Park Addition – The Nature Conservancy, as Contract Vendee Property

The acquisition of 9.5 acres in Springs, Town of East Hampton. This will be a 50/50 partnership with the Town of East Hampton and will be acquired under the Suffolk County Environmental Legacy Fund for Open Space Preservation.

A motion to approve this acquisition was made by Trustee White and seconded by Trustee McKay. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 8-0-0.

Laurel Lake County Park Addition – Jacoby LTD Family Partnership Property

The acquisition of a conservation easement on 8.66 acres of this property in Laurel, Town of Southold. This conservation easement will be acquired under the Suffolk - Program, Open Space Preservation.

A motion to table this acquisition of a conservation easement until next month was made by Trustee McKay and seconded by Trustee Hilary. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 8-0-0.

Chairman Fritz reminded Trustees to bring their “Laurel Lake County Park Addition” map to the February Trustees meeting.

Janet Longo will bring the contract to the next Trustees meeting.

PUBLIC PORTION

There were members of the public present, however they did not wish to address the Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 20th, 2007

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Trustee White and seconded by Trustee Corwin. The minutes were unanimously approved by a vote of 8-0-0.

PRESENTATION – LONG ISLAND GREENBELT TRAIL CONFERENCE

Tom Casey introduced himself as Vice President of the Long Island Greenbelt Trail Conference and introduced David Reisfield, one of the newest Board members.

Mr. Casey presented the history of the organization which has been in existence since 1978 and now has over 150 miles worth of trails under their care. If you added the trails on the South Fork, it's well over 200 miles. The Greenbelt Trail Conference runs approximately 150 hikes year-round which are run by volunteer leaders. The organization has about 2,500 members and has a network of volunteer maintainers who glaze, trim and clean the trails. Over the past 30 years there have been approximately 500,000 man-hours of volunteer labor on Long Island's parklands. The Greenbelt Trail Conference also runs teacher

education courses through SCOPE to educate people about the Pine Barrens and the Greenbelt Trail. Their mission is to acquaint people with our open spaces and show them the diversity and beauty of them.

David Reisfield thanked the county and thanked the Greenbelt Trail Conference for all their work.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Pavacic reported on the following:

Field Inspection Tour with Trustee McKay & Nick Gibbons on:

- Mahkamah Preserve and 25A parking area
- Fuchs Pond
- Lewis Oliver Farm, Northport
- Benjamin Property (Northport, VA)
- Little Red Schoolhouse
- Froehlich Farm, Moelenhoff

GATR Site

Commissioner Pavacic reported that the updated agreement from the County Attorney was just received. Contracts will be finalized and then sent to Trustee White.

Smith Point and Cupsogue

Commissioner Pavacic reported he had a number of discussions with FEMA and SEMO. The county put in for reimbursement for damage to beaches as a result of the '07 nor'easter. Parks is continuing these discussions and trying to work on some post storm beach renourishment projects.

Bergen Point Golf Course

The Commissioner reported that Bob Miller, Zebra Golf, is in there now under a 1-year custodial agreement. Parks is still working on the details for a new licensee at that facility. The golf course is closed for the season, however the catering facility is used year-round and had a number of events previously booked. Bob Miller is honoring all of those events for a seamless continuity of operations.

Long Island Maritime Museum

Commissioner Pavacic had several meetings with the new Director and Maritime Museum Trustees to go over various issues and future overall plans for the facility.

Park Police

Commissioner Pavacic reported there are 14 new Park Police recruits who started the academy the end December. They will graduate in June enabling them to patrol Parks facilities.

Earth Day

Commissioner Pavacic reported Parks is planning another Earth Day event at Indian Island of Sunday, April 20th.

Pine Barrens

Commissioner Pavacic reported Parks is continuing to work on developing new access areas into the Central Pine Barrens.

Parks Foundation

Tom Hroncich, Director of the Parks Foundation, reported the Foundation is at a very exciting time. Former Commissioner Foley came to the Parks Department and put together the idea of creating the Suffolk County Parks Foundation. As a separate not-for-profit organization, the Foundation will be able to accept private and corporate donations and funnel them to activities, structures and improvements, etc. to Suffolk County Parks. The Foundation's 501(c)(3) status was approved last month. The Foundation has received three appointees from the County Executive, one appointee from Parks Trustees and one appointee from Legislator Lindsay's office. There are still vacancies on the Board and they'd welcome recommendations from the Trustees if they know of anyone who would be a good fit.

Trustee White reported that one of the problems preventing the use of Third House is redoing the floors. He asked if the Foundation could assist in this endeavor.

Jay Miller, Chairman of the Parks Foundation Board, gave a brief overview of the Parks Foundation. He reported the corporation was formed in July of '06 and read the Foundation's general purpose clause. In summary, the purpose of the Foundation was to create, form and establish an organization to solicit, collect and otherwise raise funds to improve and enhance Suffolk County's public parks, beaches, wetlands, playgrounds, athletic fields, recreation centers, marinas, golf courses, open spaces and areas acquired for the conservation of natural resources.

Mr. Miller reported that redoing the floors at Third House could possibly be accomplished through the Foundation.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Fritz reported that Trustee Dawson is representing the Trustees on the RFEI for the skateboard park and thanked him.

Chairman Fritz reported the Sportsman's Advisory Board Meeting was held a few days ago. Trustee McKay had mentioned a number of sites that could be used for canoe/kayak access to our county parks. There's a \$125,000 grant for creating canoe and access sites throughout the county. Those sites are Indian Island, Meschutt, Southaven, Green's Creek, Peconic Dunes, Goldsmith's Inlet, Blydenburgh, Miller's Pond, Timber Point, Cedar Point and Lake Ronkonkoma.

Chairman Fritz informed the Trustees that Earth Day is April 20th.

Future Trustee meeting locations were determined for 2008 and will be distributed next month.

ROUND TABLE

Trustee McKay thanked Commissioner Pavacic for coming to Huntington this week to review certain sites for development and in need of repair and replacement.

Trustee Cardillo reported the new bathroom facilities at Indian Island are coming along nicely.

Trustee White thanked Deputy Commissioner Bellone for all she's done for the GATR site.

Chairman Fritz reported the fishing pier at Smith Point goes out to bid on the 29th of January.

Chairman Fritz announced that the next Trustees meeting will be at Meadowedge in West Sayville on Thursday, February 21st, 2008.

A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee White and seconded by Trustee Hilary. Unanimously approved by a vote of 8-0-0.

Minutes submitted by Ann Rothenberg.